

(b) the extent to which reincarnation of Oil Coordination Committee is likely to improve matters connected with the variations in the elements of standard cost of petroleum products and cut down the mounting deficit in the oil pool account ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) A study is being undertaken by OCC to examine the present working of OCC and to suggest suitable changes in its role and structure in the context of liberalisation of petroleum sector.

[Translation]

Outstanding Amount

5064. SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any representation from the Government of Maharashtra regarding the postponement of the adjustment of the outstanding amount due to the Union Government ;

(b) if so, the details of the issues mentioned in the representation; and

(c) the reaction of the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) The Ministry of Finance has not received any representation from the Government of Maharashtra for postponement of repayment of principal or payment of interest due to the Ministry of Finance.

(b) and (c) Does not arise, Sir.

[English]

Power Project of Gujarat

5065. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Power and Petrochemicals, Government of Gujarat has submitted any proposal to the Union Government in regard to "Relaxing cap on investment by Indian Financial Institute in power projects based on indigenous equipments in Gujarat" during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details of such proposals received during each of the last three years till date.

(c) the details of proposals accepted, rejected and under consideration/pending.

(d) the reasons for not taking any decision, till date, and

(e) the time by which these proposals are likely to be approved and the latest position thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (e) The private power policy *inter alia* stipulates that an amount not

exceeding 40% of the total outlay may come from Indian public financial institutions, but the remaining amount should be met from other sources. The Government of Gujarat had requested in 1996 that Independent Power Producers (IPPs) sourcing equipment from indigenous suppliers should be exempted from this limit. This request is under consideration.

[Translation]

Loans for SCs in U.P.

5066. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Banks in the rural areas of Uttar Pradesh have been making delay in advancing loans to the scheduled castes;

(b) the schemes under which the Scheduled Castes of Uttar Pradesh, particularly of Sambhal area have been benefitted; and

(c) the target fixed for advancing loans by the banks during the current financial year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) State Bank of India (SBI) the Convenor Bank for Uttar Pradesh, has reported that no such complaint has come to the notice of the State Level Banker's Committee (SLBC).

(b) SBI have further reported that the schemes under which Scheduled Castes from Uttar Pradesh have been benefitted are Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Special Component Plan, Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojna (PMRY), Scheme for Urban Micro Enterprises (SUME), Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMIUEP) and the National Scheme for Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers (NSLRS).

(c) Target fixed for advancing loans by banks during the financial year 1996-97 as furnished by SBI, the convenor bank of Uttar Pradesh, were as under :

Nature of Scheme	Physical Target
(i) PMRY	35,813
(ii) SUME	49,157
(iii) PMIUEP	7,822
(iv) Special Component Plan	1,00,000
(v) National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers and their dependents.	60,000

In respect of IRDP, there is a financial target of Rs. 450.00 crores.

[English]

Vacant Posts of SBI in Orissa

5067. SHRI ANCHAL DAS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :